GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4868
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008
STD/ISD/PCO BOOTHS
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/ISD/PCO Booths set up by the Union Government in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years and till date, State-wise;

(b) the number of such booths proposed to be set up in the country especially in Andhra Pradesh during the year 2008-09; and

(c) the funds likely to be spent in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) The data of Public Telephone Booths [Public Call Offices (PCOs)] excluding Village Panchayat Telephones is maintained Circle-wise and not State-wise by BSNL/MTNL. The number of PCOs functioning in all the Circles including Andhra Pradesh during the last three years i.e. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 (upto 31.03.2008) are given in the Annexure.

(b) The target fixed by BSNL for provision of PCOs during 2008-09 in the country except Delhi and Mumbai is 4 lakh net addition of PCOs. The target for Andhra Pradesh has been fixed as 5,000 net addition of PCOs.MTNL has not fixed any target for Delhi and Mumbai as the PCOs are available on demand in these cities.

(c) No separate fund is earmarked for this purpose by the BSNL/MTNL as the expenditure on PCO forms part of normal Direct Exchange Lines (DELs).